CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-24 (canceled)

25. (new) An element having high mechanical strength and high vibration absorption comprising:

an internal core composed of at least one core member constituted of at least one first material consisting of a thermoplastic resin in which a plurality of natural and/or synthetic fibers are embedded and having predominantly high mechanical characteristics, and at least one second material with predominantly highly elastic characteristics bonded to the first material without the use of adhesives; and

a layer covering said core.

26. (new) The element defined in claim 25 wherein said fibers are composed at least in part of glass fiber.

27. (new) The element defined in claim 26 wherein said second material is an elastomeric polymer.

28. (new) The element defined in claim 27 wherein said thermoplastic resin is engineered polyurethane thermoplastic polymer (ETPU).

29. (new) The element defined in claim 27 wherein said second material is composed of thermoplastic polyurethane.

30. (new) The element defined in claim 29 wherein said layer is an elastomeric polymer.

31. (new) The element defined in claim 30 wherein said core is comprised of at least two discrete elongated members of said first material produced by pultrusion and extending along the entire length of said elements, a bearing of said second material being inserted between said elongated elements.

32. (new) The element defined in claim 31 wherein said members are rod-shaped or disk-shaped.

33. (new) The element defined in claim 32 wherein said members are rod-shaped and each have at least one flat surface and one curved surface, said bearing being inserted between and bonded to flat surfaces of said members.

34. (new) The element defined in claim 33 in the form of a handle for a hand tool.

35. (new) A method of making an element with high mechanical strength and high vibration absorption, comprising the steps of:

(a) forming at least two discrete elongated members of a length capable of extending along an entire length of said element and composed of a first material having predominantly high mechanical characteristics;

(b) inserting between said members and automatically bonding thereto by chemical bonding a bearing of at least a second material having predominantly highly elastic characteristics whereby said members and said bearing form a core; and

(c) coating said core with at least one third material.

36. (new) The method defined in claim 35 wherein the bonding of the first material and the second material is effected by the application of heat and without the use of an adhesive.

37. (new) The method defined in claim 36 in which said material is a thermoplastic resin in which a plurality of natural and/or synthetic fibers are embedded.

38. (new) The method defined in claim 37 wherein said fibers include glass fibers.

39. (new) The method defined in claim 38 wherein said second material is a thermoplastic polyurethane.

40. (new) The method defined in claim 39 wherein said thermoplastic resin is engineered polyurethane thermoplastic polymer (EPTU).

41. (new) The method defined in claim 40 wherein said third material is composed of an elastomeric polymer.

42. (new) The method defined in claim 41 wherein said members are shaped at least in part by pultrusion.

43. (new) The method defined in claim 42 wherein said core is shaped at least in part by coextrusion at a temperature sufficient to bond said first and second material together.

44. (new) The method defined in claim 43, further comprising the step of thermoforming said third material to shape said element into an ergonomic shape.